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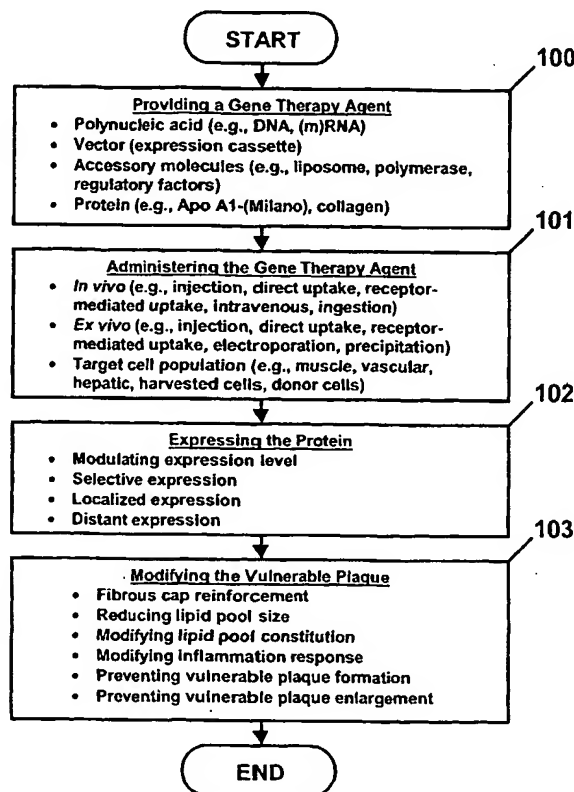
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(54) Title: METHOD AND AGENT FOR TREATING VULNERABLE PLAQUE



(57) Abstract: A method and gene therapy agent for treating a vulnerable plaque associated with a blood vessel of a patient is disclosed. The method includes providing at least one gene therapy agent encoding at least one protein. The gene therapy agent is administered to a target cell population. The protein is expressed within the patient from a portion of the target cell population. The vulnerable plaque is modified as a result of the protein expression. The gene therapy agent includes at least one polynucleic acid encoding at least one protein. Administration of the gene therapy agent to a target cell population results in expression of the protein capable of modifying the vulnerable plaque.

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